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The Varsity Choral Society is a division of **Play Troupe, Inc.**
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VARSITY CHORAL SOCIETY

presents

THIRTIETH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

featuring

“Messiah” (Christmas portion)
by G.F. Handel

and

“Navidad Nuestra” by Ariel Ramirez

Under the direction of
Craig S. Tocher

Accompanist
Bernadette Hoke

Sunday, December 22, 2019
Congregational Church, Manhasset

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--PROGRAM--

“Messiah” (Christmas portion)	G.F. Handel (1685-1759)
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Soloists	Molly Davey, soprano Melissa Maravell, alto Robert Horowitz, tenor Jason Hendrix, baritone
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Instrumentalists	Anton Polezhayev, Megan Atchley, violins Kristin Nikaj, viola Daeil Yang, cello Kageki Nagao, bass violin Bernadette Hoke, organ
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Sinfonia	(Overture)
Recit.	Comfort ye my people (tenor solo)
Air	Every valley shall be exalted (tenor solo)
Chorus	And the glory of the Lord
Recit.	Thus saith the Lord (bass solo)
Air	But who may abide the day of his coming? (alto solo)
Chorus	And he shall purify
Recit.	Behold a virgin shall conceive (alto solo)
Air	O thou that tallest good tidings to Zion (alto solo and chorus)
Recit.	For behold, darkness shall cover the earth (bass solo)
Air	The people that walked in darkness (bass solo)
Chorus	For unto us a child is born
Sinfonia	Pastoral Symphony
Recit.	There were shepherds abiding in the field (soprano solo)
Recit.	And suddenly there was with the angel (soprano solo)
Chorus	Glory to God
Air	Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion (soprano solo)
Recit.	Then shall the eyes of the blind (soprano solo)
Air	And he shall fee his block (soprano and alto solos)
Chorus	His yoke is easy, and his burthen is light
Chorus	Hallelujah

Georg Frederic Handel wrote “Messiah” in 3 to 4 weeks in the depths of depression in 1741 when he was in Dublin, Ireland as his operatic works were poorly received in London the year before. The work premiered in Dublin in 1742 and its first performance in London was during 1743.

--INTERMISSION--

Sound the Trumpet

Joseph d’Angelo, tenor
Mark van Schenkof, baritone

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Craig Tocher, organ

CHOIR PERSONNEL

**Winter Was Warm / Lord’s Bright Blessing
from “Mr. Magoo’s Christmas Carol”**

April Lindevald, Alto

Julie Styne / Bob Merrill

Craig Tocher, piano

Nancy Corn
Rose Hartunian
Jane Murphy
Denise Sullivan

Molly Davey
Nancy Morris
Lynne Stebbins

SOPRANOS

Christmas Shopping Blues

Nancy Morris, Jan Richardson, Lynne Stebbins

Ruth Morris Gray

ALTOS

Mille Cherubini in Coro

Jane Murphy, soprano

Alois Melichar, lyrics by Ernest Marischka

Craig Tocher, organ

Terry Bain
Linda Collins
April Lindevald
Doris Whittemore

Carolina Capone
Janice Donoghue
Jan Richardson

Panis Angelicus

Stan Lacy, baritone

César Franck (1822-18900

Craig Tocher, organ

TENORS

Navidad Nuestra

Choir

Ariel Ramirez (1921-2010)

Bernadette Hoke, piano
TJ Adams, Simon MacVicar, Lawrence Rizzo,
percussion
Raffi Froundjian, guitar

Joseph D’Angelo
Robert Horowitz
Lawrence Shields

Brian Hickey
Melissa Maravell

Ariel Ramirez, of Argentina, composed this piece in 1964. For the six episodes of this Creole tableau, Ramirez availed himself of dances and songs of Argentine musical traditions.

BASSES

AUDIENCE SING ALONG

Led by Clyde Locke, singer emeritus

Craig Tocher, organ

Jason Hendrix
Stan Lacy
Mark van Schenkof

Douglas Horowitz
Douglas Stebbins

O Come All Ye Faithful, Angels We Have Heard on High, O Little Town of Bethlehem,
Silent Night, We Wish You a Merry Christmas

AUDIENCE SING-ALONG

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold Him, Born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore Him, o come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ Whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Refrain

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous Gift is giv'n;
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His Heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child,
Holy Infant so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar.
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior is born.
Christ, the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night.
Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

We wish you a Merry Christmas, we wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!
Glad tidings we bring to you and your kin;
Glad tidings for Christmas and a happy New Year!

Please bring us some figgy pudding,
Please bring us some figgy pudding,
Please bring us some figgy pudding,
Please bring it right here!

We wish you a Merry Christmas, we wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!